

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS WITH IMPROVED TRACTION, specification of which:

(check one)

☐

is attached hereto

☒

was filed on August 2, 1997 as US Application Serial Number or PCT International Application Number 09/355,677

and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Not Claimed

☐

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. '119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designation the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

(Application Number)

(Filing Date)

(Status -patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Richard L. Myers, Registration Number 26,490; address all telephone calls to: Richard L. Myers at telephone number (714) 450-1750; address all correspondence to: Richard L. Myers, 26051 Merit Circle, Suite 103, Laguna Hills, CA 92653.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name): CHARLES E. HART

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Full name of second joint inventor (given name, family name): JONES, ROBERT T.

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Date 2-2-98

Citizenship U.S.A.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Inventor(s): Hart et al.

Appln. No. 09/355,679
series code | serial no.

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: Aug. 9, 1999

Examiner: W. Lewis

Title: SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS WITH IMPROVED TRACTION

Date May 23, 2001

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Asst. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned attorney of record in this case hereby appoints as
associate attorney:

David W. Long Reg. No. 41948 and

Paul N. Kokulis Reg. No. 16773 to transact

business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected with the subject application.

Please continue to direct all communications about this application to
Richard L. Myers at the below address.

Respectfully submitted,

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